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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO. 7

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Pyrites and Manganese Mines, Chvaletice

DATE DISTR. 22 December 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. [redacted] the manganese ore
mines in Chvaletice near Prelouc, called Manganese and Pyrite Enterprises,
National Corporation (Manganorudne a kyzove zavody, n.p.). [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] The plant included
one surface pyrites mine, and another small surface manganese ore mine.

2. The pyrites mine is a large surface excavation, situated on the Pardubice-Kolin railway, on the south side of the line. The quarry forms a circle 1 km. in diameter. It is worked by shovel-type excavators with a capacity of 1.5 to 2 cbm. The excavators are used mostly in digging ore from the pyritic clays. The ore-bearing layer is about 80 m. deep and the output of pyrites is 10 to 20 tons in an 8-hour shift. There are about ten narrow gauge steam engines working in the plant; the self-emptying carts have a capacity of 2 m. There is a branch-line in operation for the ore. Sorting and washing are done in the proximity of the plant. About 500 miners work in three shifts. This is a recently opened project, but stoppages and deficiencies in production have been caused by absenteeism because of low wages and a reduction of food rations by one-third. The chief mine engineer is Ing. Juzá.

3. The manganese mine is also a surface mine, about 200 meters away from the pyrites mine. Work is conducted under almost the same conditions as at the pyrites mine, but only two excavators are used. Narrow gauge transportation is the same. Washing and sorting of manganese ore are done out in the immediate neighborhood of the manganese mine in a wooden construction and another partly-walled one (sic).

4. Thirteen chemists work in two shifts in the laboratory under the chief chemist, (fru) Louda, a former chemist and laboratory assistant in the Jachymov mines. The sulphur content in the pyrites is 38% to 42%.

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5. During 1952 new pyrites surface mines are to be opened in Lukacice about 25 km. to the west or southwest of Chvaletice. Experimental borings there have shown that a compound identical with that of the ore-bearing material at Chvaletice exists in the area of Lukacice.¹

1. Comment: No town of this name in Czechoslovakia can be identified from reference material available at this office. Possibly Lochovice (N 50/L 45) is meant.

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